

PEACE NEWS

The Weekly Newspaper of the Peace Pledge Union serving all who are working for Peace

No. 54

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2d.

Statesmen Admit Pacifist Policy is Practical!

DEMAND FULFILMENT OF EMPIRE PLEDGES

Thank You Manchester!

AS a result of the exclusion by Manchester City Council of PEACE NEWS from the municipal libraries we have received considerable publicity and enhanced sales in what is already a pacifist stronghold.

Organized by the "live" honorary secretary of the Manchester and District Group of the Peace Pledge Union (Mr. H. Leslie Kirkley), 250 copies of last week's issue were sold outside 12 libraries so easily that a larger order has been given for this week.

Copies were also sold out on the P.P.U. stall at the Ideal Homes Exhibition at Belle Vue where dozens of peace pledge cards have been signed.

In a leading article on Thursday of last week the Manchester Guardian said of the Manchester Library Committee's case:—

The chairman maintained that the committee must hold the balance between the propagandists of opposing creeds; that if "Peace News" were admitted no propagandist publication could fairly be excluded; and that the peace movement got more publicity than any other subject in the daily newspapers which were placed in the libraries.

The first of these arguments is scarcely tenable; would the committee ban all propaganda in favour of road safety... simply for lack of devil's advocates to put the contrary case? The second is hardly more reasonable: propaganda is to be found in nearly all periodicals... As to the last contention—assuming it is true (which is by no means indisputable)—should it not rather be regarded as evidence of that public interest in the subject-matter of "Peace News" which it is the function of a municipal library to satisfy?

Most people want peace, and are anxious to learn how best they can help to secure it... [PEACE NEWS] offers a distinct contribution which no serious advocate of peace would wish to ignore.

As a further comment on this most extraordinary argument, we would point out that

it was just because the peace movement does not get even a reasonable amount of publicity in the daily and similar popular newspapers that PEACE NEWS came into existence just over a year ago; and its circulation has already justified its existence.

Here is your chance to rival Manchester pacifists' keenness.

If PEACE NEWS is not in your public library write at once to the Librarian asking that it be placed there regularly, and if you need arguments and ideas to press the claim in the event of any demur write to PEACE NEWS, 59 Waterfall Road, London, N.11. We have special material. If it is in, let us know. Anyhow, see that your group does something!

THE Imperial Conference's statement on foreign affairs issued at the close of its deliberations last week commits the governments of the most imperialistic empire in the world to policies which a pacifist government could scarcely improve on!

On the economic side this attitude is expressed in terms of the "emphatic desire" of all parts of the Empire represented at the Conference that "all practicable steps should be taken to secure the stimulation of international trade."

Empire statesmen have found it necessary at any rate to say they mean peace and have shown they know the way to achieve it; public opinion must insist on the progressive sections of the conference's report being implemented.

PEACE PUT FIRST

ALTHOUGH the affirmation by the Imperial Conference that "for each member of the Commonwealth the first objective is the preservation of peace," may be classed by the cynical as a pious hope rather than an expression of policy, pacifists will welcome the representatives' assertion that

"in their view the settlement of differences that may arise between nations and the adjustment of national needs should be sought by methods of cooperation, joint inquiry, and conciliation."

"It is in such methods," added the statement, "and not in recourse to the use of force between nation and nation, that the surest guarantee will be found for the improvement of international relations and respect for mutual engagements."

After an assurance that the Empire's armaments would never be used for purposes of aggression or for any purpose inconsistent with the League Covenant or the Pact of Paris, the statesmen went on to suggest the separation of the Covenant from the Peace Treaties. Even disarmament was not despaired of by the conference, whose members wanted as wide a measure of it as could be obtained—although this was hedged by a reference to measures of "defence" "essential for their security."

OFFER TO COOPERATE

Every endeavour must be made by those anxious to secure a stable peace to see that the Empire carries out its offer

"to cooperate with other nations in examining current difficulties, including trade barriers and other obstacles to the increase of international trade and the improvement of the general standard of living."

Another supposed barrier to the adoption of a pacifist policy by the "Home Country," whatever the attitude of the dominions, was swept away by the "understanding that all

THEORY & PRACTICE

ANTI-FASCISTS in Britain often condemn any attempt to approach totalitarian States with offers of economic cooperation, and George Lansbury's efforts in particular have come in for some criticism.

Such critics would do well to consider the attitude of New Zealand's Labour Government, which was among the governments subscribing to the conference report declaring that:

While firmly attached to the principles of democracy and to Parliamentary forms of government, the members decided to register their view that differences of political creed should be no obstacle to friendly relations between governments and countries, and that nothing would be more damaging to the hopes of international appeasement than the division, real or apparent, of the world into opposing groups.

members of the Empire are free to formulate their own policy."

The existence of many hopeful signs in the report, however, must be weighed against the Foreign Secretary's declaration in Parliament this week that no change was contemplated in the British Government's foreign policy. But a change is necessary, and pacifists must demand action along the lines indicated in the progressive portions of the report.

NEW L.N.U. MOVE

A decision to use the whole influence of the League of Nations Union to obtain a separation of the League Covenant from the Peace Treaties was among the results of the annual conference of the L.N.U. at Torquay last week.



Brig.-Gen. F. P. Crozier
C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

writes on

"SENTIMENTALITY AND THE FIGHTING SERVICES"

on page 6

Pacifism in Scottish Episcopal Church

From Our Own Correspondent

A CONFERENCE on pacifism for Clergy and Laity of the Scottish Episcopal Church (which is in full communion with the Church of England) is being held at Balhousie Castle from June 29 to July 1.

Several Episcopalians who felt keenly on the subject met together a year ago there for a small conference, as a result of which it was decided to hold this larger one.

The speakers will include Canon Stuart Morris, the Rev. H. Stuart, Mr. D. M. Mackinnon, Lecturer in Moral Philosophy at Edinburgh University, and Miss L. Russell.

The arrangement of the conference has revealed the fact that many of the younger clergy in the Scottish Episcopal Church are convinced pacifists.

ARCHBISHOP CRITICIZED

Outspoken criticisms of the Archbishop of York were made by the Rev. R. Le Messurier at the Church of the Holy Cross, St. Pancras, London, on Sunday evening.

He said that it was horrible to see one of our own archbishops bemoaning the fact that recruiting was not proceeding fast enough.

AN AIR MAIL APPEAL FROM VALENCIA

By H. RUNHAM BROWN

WE need urgently soap and cod-liver-oil preparations for the children of Madrid. You know that the ordinary ways of food supply are cut by the war; that is why we observe increasing traces of A-vitaminosis.

Simultaneously the fascists have bombed soap factories and there is a sensible deficiency of soap of all kinds. Scabies and pediculosis are increasing too. I am sure that public opinion in England and Scotland will understand that we need help urgently to protect 100,000 children against permanent damage.

The above appeal has come through to the War Resisters' International and is from the Technical Adviser on Hygienic Questions in the Ministry of Health and Public Assistance to the Spanish Government in Valencia.

Do not forget the children who are left behind. Send your gifts to:—Canon "Dick" Sheppard, Peace Pledge Union, 96 Regent Street, London, W.1, and mark them "For Work in Spain."

AVARICE: CAUSE OF WORLD UNREST

From Our Own Correspondent

The view that the present world unrest was prompted by avarice on the part of those nations lacking extensive overseas possessions and was directly attributable to British imperialism in India was expressed by Dr. Har Dayal at the North West London conference of the Fellowship of Reconciliation last Saturday.

In the light of Britain's unhappy record as peacemaker, he continued, the Christian pacifist of this country was faced with two difficulties, since he had to give consideration to the adjustment of his own nation's policy before proceeding to indicate a higher way of life for the progressive peoples of other countries.

Later in the day attention was turned to the F.o.R.'s activities in that area. Outlining the local applications of the Fellowship's second year plan of reconciliation, Eldon Hadley said that he felt that the churches' most unfortunate weakness was their giving ground for indifference toward Christianity.

Don't be Distracted!

"The Baptist report says that war is contrary to the nature of God, yet a soldier can be a good Christian. But if you are going to be a good soldier you have to hate (you can't stick a bayonet into a man without hate), to lie, and to steal," said Dr. Donald Soper at a recent lunch-hour meeting at the City P.P.U. group's headquarters.

Summing up he said that pacifists must keep to the fundamentals and not be distracted by different circumstances.

INTERNATIONAL HOSTEL

The hostel will be open at Youth House, 250 Camden Road, London, N.W.1 from July 21 to August 31 when it is hoped to welcome young people from many nations.

There are still too many

PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW WHAT WE WANT

says LORD PONSONBY

Reflections and Comments

THOSE who are not with us are against us" is a tag often used on political platforms. As a generalization it is fundamentally untrue.

Let me make a very rough approximate analysis so far as the P.P.U. is concerned. We may say, although it may be an overestimate, that one percent of the adult population is either wholeheartedly with us or sympathetic.

Then let us put our active and convinced opponents, including militarists, supporters of collective "security," or an international "police" force together with those who do not believe in either of these policies but support "rearmament," at forty percent of the population.

This is an overestimate because, apart from Members of Parliament and spokesmen of the League of Nations Union and of other societies, the rank and file acquiesce partly because of general political allegiance and partly because, having no time to study the question, they are ready to accept a policy from their leaders which they are told will make for peace.

They are all anti-war and some would be found among them who, though inarticulate, might not dismiss wholesale our methods and principles.

NOW what about the remaining 59 percent. They read newspapers in which the P.P.U. is never mentioned, so they have never heard of it.

Many of them may have seen "Dick" Sheppard's name or heard him on the wireless. They have gathered vaguely that he is a Christian pacifist and is "against war," but so is the Archbishop of Canterbury and their own parson or minister if any should happen to go

to church or chapel, which the majority of them do not.

They have heard of George Lansbury. They do not quite understand, or, indeed, trouble to understand, why he left off being leader of the Labour Party. He, too, is "against war," but so was the last Prime Minister, so is the present Prime Minister, and Mr. Attlee, and Sir Archibald Sinclair.

Peace is "politics" and so they cannot be bothered about it. Anyhow they won't know much about it till war comes and then that will be an excitement. They do not go to meetings and they have their various interests good, bad, and indifferent, which occupy their attention quite sufficiently: sport, entertainment, money-making, or full-time drudgery.

AS I have been pegging away at this question of peace and war for a good many years and have been in politics and served in governments, many of them know my name on the principle that "more people know Tomfool than Tomfool knows."

They may hear me, too, occasionally on the wireless in rather a different capacity. Even so, most of them have little idea of the particular principles of pacifism for which I stand.

I have actually found that acquaintances of mine who meet me from time to time show by their conversation that they have no notion of my opinions.

Not long ago, when I was still Leader of the Opposition in the House of Lords, where I had to speak on nearly every Bill and in most debates, during a heavy week of work I met a country acquaintance and neighbour in the Underground.

She said: "What on earth are you doing in London—shopping?"

I do not think it is fully realized that whether it be from ignorance, indifference, or absorption in other pursuits, a vast section, yes 59 percent, simply know nothing of what engages our fullest attention.

I HAVE found even local Labour Parties surprised when I have explained my inability to speak for them, because they know nothing of my profound disagreement with the present foreign policy of the party.

So while our names may be known for various reasons, any precise knowledge of what we stand for is far more rare than we think. Therefore to say that these 59 percent are "against us" is ridiculous, even although none of them may have declared that they are "with us." Things are not clear cut like that.

It might be easier perhaps if they were. But, with these huge electorates, elections are not won and governments put in by strongly convinced people of one side preponderating over strongly convinced people of the other side: but by the much larger fluctuating mass of vague, drifting, opinionless people who need by no means be idle or useless. They simply happen to be indifferent to the issues in question.

THE hope in this is that there are still many to be reached and perhaps converted. But the despair is that they may be impervious to argument and yet swayed by claptrap when the testing time comes.

Nothing pleases me more than when I come across a person who I notice taking an interest and who prefaces his wish to hear more by saying: "I have never heard the case put that way before."

Converts may have the zeal of missionaries. But some converts want watching in case they slide back.

I think we should remember in our larger audiences that a good sprinkling of the 59 percent may have come there perhaps out of curiosity and so we should be careful not to talk above their heads by assuming they know arguments and facts which we know so well.

I have heard speakers talk fluently of the Covenant, of collective "security," of sanctions, and of facts about the last war, forgetting that what they had repeated so often is still quite unknown to many. My experience is that one must repeat oneself not twice but twenty times before some people begin to understand why we think what we do.

Arthur Ponsonby

RECONCILIATION

A monthly review published by
The Fellowship of Reconciliation

The purpose of "Reconciliation" is to review affairs from the Christian Pacifist point of view, to develop a constructive peace policy expressive of Christian principle and to keep peace workers in churches, colleges and the various Christian Pacifist Fellowships in touch with each other.

A specimen copy will be sent to you free of charge on application to the Editor, "Reconciliation," 17 Red Lion Square, London, W.C.1

KILL OR CURE?

Fight Disease Not
Wage War!

From Our Own Correspondent

A REMARKABLE lecture was delivered by the 83-year-old Professor A. Lorenz at the Medical Festival in Vienna recently on "The world without cripples."

Professor Lorenz declared that a world without cripples is absolutely possible, but only if governments will not spend money to make cripples out of healthy people, but to make cripples healthy.

There is no necessity, said Professor Lorenz, for having miserable cripples whose bodies are deformed by tuberculosis and rickets, if governments would use money for curing diseases instead of for armaments.

Professor Lorenz appealed to governments not to squander money for armaments with the aim to cut their neighbour's throat at the slightest pretext, but to provide sufficient funds for the nourishment of the people and for the struggle against disease.

ENTHUSIASM

In order to buy a Peace Bond from the National Council for the Prevention of War of America, the Ladies Aid of McKenna, Washington, have decided to do without electric lights in their little church.

CLEANING UP THE HISTORY BOOKS

AN agreement has been reached between German and French historians, according to the New York Observer, to remove the "untruthful statements" which they have been teaching in their schools since the war.

The vital question of "war guilt" is covered by the agreement, and the report says that it is an important first step in the moral disarmament of these nations.

"A mistake of grave consequence" is the description given in the agreement to the declaration of war by Austria-Hungary on Serbia, and the Germans admit that Germany "did nothing to prevent it."

On the other hand the French historians believe that this "could scarcely be expected."

Outdoor Meeting

The Cheshire monthly meeting peace committee of the Society of Friends is running a series of open-air meetings this summer, the date for the next one being tomorrow, to be held at Prestbury. Pleasure will be mixed with business, for all these meetings are to be preceded by a ramble.

General Election and Pacifism in Holland

HOW THE PARTIES COMPARE

"I AM convinced that pacifism in most countries has nothing to expect from parliaments. The most effective pacifist action lies outside of it," writes a Dutch correspondent, commenting on the results of the recent general election in Holland. Our correspondent writes:—

This year the election was conducted by a different method from that used in 1933. Not seats, but the percentages of the votes polled indicate this time the growth and decrease in power of the various political parties.

There are 100 seats and twenty large parties plus several small local ones to choose from. Voting is compulsory.

A factor—unknown in England—was the vehement participation on a religious basis of the Roman Catholics, the anti-revolutionary Protestants, and three other parties of Protestants. All these are anti-pacifist. A small dissident Roman Catholic party that is pacifist fell from 1.65 percent in 1933 to .67 percent in 1937 and lost its only seat.

PACIFIST PARTY

Many pacifist women and also non-church pacifists gave their vote to the mainly free protestant Christian Democratic Union which rose from 1.03 percent in 1933 to 2.09 percent in 1937 and got two seats with 85,007 votes. The C.D.U. is now the only pacifist party in the Dutch parliament.

The Labour Party backs the war

budget for fear of Germany and fascism. It rose from 21.46 percent to 21.95 percent. The National-Socialists, who first took part in the County Council election in 1935 fell from 7.94 percent to 4.21 percent and got four seats with 171,057 votes, though they had boasted of getting at least ten.

The other fiercely militarist party, Nationaal Herstel fell from 0.81 percent to 0.15 percent and lost their seat.

REACTIONARY MEASURES

The Premier, H. Colijn, an anti-revolutionary protestant and ex-colonial army officer is famous for the bloody pacification of the Dutch colony, Atjeh.

His premiership brought a proposal for extension of conscription, very heavy rearmament expenditure, longer prison punishment for c.o.'s, compulsory air raid drill, and more reactionary measures.

The lost National-Socialist votes went mostly to him. He is sure to fulfill many of their intentions. His party rose from 13.43 percent to 16.39 percent.

HOW WAR AFFECTS SPANISH CHILDREN

From Our Special Correspondent

CASTELLON-DE-LA-PLANA.

AN exhibition of children's sketches has just been opened in Valencia. There were over 500 entries, and the reporter describes the function as a great success since it gave prominence to the emotions produced in the child mind by the fascist rebellion and the war of invasion, an outstanding lesson to which the head of the department of elementary education drew attention when opening the exhibition.

The reactions of the children to the subject appear to have varied considerably: for, while some portrayed the sad spectacle of fascist vandalism destroying schools, others, in strikingly realistic sketches, depicted battle scenes in which the anti-fascists are shown advancing to victory, leaving some of their number dead upon the field. Shades of Goya and El Greco!

Are we to believe that the dominant thought in the infant Spaniard's mind is—war? (For nothing shows the prevailing sentiment more clearly than the drawing).

OFFICIAL ENCOURAGEMENT

But what else can one expect when one reads in another paper that, with a view to inaugurating new branches of the "Alerta" and training "those who want to defend their country," 300 boys and girls in another provincial capital gave a demonstration of physical culture including a number of military movements?

On my table are lying half a dozen books issued for use in elementary schools by the Ministry of Public

Education. Two of them positively extol war.

It is, of course, impossible for one correspondent to cover the whole of the Spanish Press, but I usually manage to read from three to five different papers every day. As yet I have seen no reference to the Children's Annual Peace and Goodwill Message broadcast from Wales on May 18.

This may be an oversight, or at least may have no special significance. Yet it seems an unhappy omission in view of all these prominent puerile polemics.

Perhaps, however, some better informed reader is in a position to record that the message has not only been received but acknowledged. I hope so.

PACIFIST SCHOOL?

All this is hard to reconcile with the wise, humane, and far-sighted policy of a government which is opening institutions for abnormal children and courses of instruction for those who are to be entrusted with their education.

It seems that one of the first tasks lying before the pacifist is to inaugurate a system of education in which war shall be relegated to the same plane as trial by combat, forays, witchcraft, cannibalism, and slavery.

Who will come forward and help to open a pacifist school? If we cannot hope to save the present generation, may we not at least lay the foundation-stone of a more enlightened successor?

IT PAYS TO SAVE

Four Per Cent. Free of Income-Tax

This generous return is paid half-yearly to all Holders of £10 Preference Shares in the St. Pancras Building Society. The Shares are withdrawable in full at any time on short notice. Any number from 1 to 500 may be held by each person.

The Secretary will be pleased to send a prospectus on receipt of a postcard.

ST. PANCRAS BUILDING SOCIETY
3 Wigmore Place, London, W.1

Headquarters' Notes and Comments

By MAX PLOWMAN

96 Regent Street, W.1.

ONCE knew a great psychologist who was also a great educationist. He used to give talks to parents at which he would show from the typical anti-social acts of delinquent children how the finest instincts of human nature were perverted by ignorance, custom and false idealism into thieving, lying, cruelty and destructiveness. His main purpose was to indicate how, by a true appreciation of human nature and an understanding of the growth of the child mind, parents could give their children an environment which would enable them to become harmonious social adults. Similarly, for the same purpose, he would show how certain commonly-accepted attitudes towards children always produced fear, hatred and antagonism to the entire social order. And at the end of such a lecture, time and again he was confronted by some plaintive woman who would say to him: "Yes, I quite appreciate what you say: it's all very true and most interesting; but what ought I to do when Tommy kicks my shins and tells me he hates me?"

Only today I sat in the office and listened to a young airman who said: "Yes, of course, we all want peace. But what are you going to do when someone starts dropping bombs on you?"

The time will come when it will be generally recognized that to ask this question is to declare yourself incapable of rational thought. The people who ask it will be understood to be those who are so abysmally ignorant of the laws of cause and effect that their best questions only beg the question. Sensible people will have learnt that bomb-dropping is not a normal activity for socially-grown persons, and that if anyone "starts dropping bombs on you" there must be a case-history behind such anti-social activity that wants looking into as speedily as possible, so that the anti-social activities of such people may be turned into their normal social courses.

Germany has rearmed. How many people in this country are seriously interested to discover why? Rearmament expresses the determination of the party rearming to behave in a completely inhuman fashion to some other party. If you are abysmally ignorant of human nature you will decide that this policy of rearmament abroad is due to some aberration of the mind or some inherent vice in the foreigner. You will, in fact, not be interested in the cause of rearmament but wholly interested in its effect upon yourself. You will be like the plaintive woman and the young airman of this tale. And the appropriate answer to such abysmal ignorance is: "Kick back—or bomb back—till you know better by bitter experience." If, however, you desire to understand the relation of cause and effect, you will not—as Britain is now doing—turn your own country into an arsenal for the purpose of doing unto others as you hope to God they won't do to you, but you will probe your own and your enemy's past till you discover what it

GROUP NOTES

By JOHN BARCLAY

DURING the last month a new spirit of determination has been making itself felt throughout the groups, and the result has been a general increase in publicity. Press cuttings reach me from all the local papers in this country, and it is quite clear from them that the P.P.U. is becoming NEWS.

Groups have a wonderful opportunity, and if they will seize it, much may happen. Public opinion is waiting for a lead, and will support a constructive and whole-hearted peace policy. Rearmament is already making itself felt: building costs are up by 40 percent, and petrol, food, and other commodities are rising. Dark hints are being given by leading economists that we shall shortly be faced with a slump as soon as the peak of munition-making is reached. It is our business to demand a complete reversal of this madness before it is too late. We have 575 groups, growing at an astonishing rate, and if they all speak at once and without cessation, their voice will be heard. Meetings must be held whenever and wherever possible, and all our efforts put into this intensive campaign which has as its aim the ending of the armament race.

Cardiff has reorganized itself and is now becoming a centre of pacifist activity. Dr. Cecilia Pugh, 11 Camborne Avenue, Whitchurch, and her committee need the help of all who will get in touch with them. Public meetings have started in the open air, and the city is covered by a network of groups.

I have had a long report from the Carlisle group. They are making a definite attempt to get the younger people interested and keen on work for pacifism, and recently held a garden meeting, to which a great number were invited. They were addressed by Miss Margaret Dove, of Seascale, who explained to them why it was they would be most affected in the event of war, and that it was not too soon to begin discussing the possibility of pacifism as the only alternative. After the meeting, a party set out on a seven-mile ramble through East Cumberland, discussing the questions on the way.

On June 10 about fifty pacifists, led by the Notting Hill contingent, demonstrated outside Olympia. Posters were carried and leaflets were given away, protesting against the holding of a military tattoo. Police prevented the demonstration from approaching the doors, but a large area was covered from Hammersmith to Shepherd's Bush, and much interest was aroused. All this cost money, and donations to defray expenses will be gratefully received by Miss E. M. Dighton, Flat 7, 42 Queensborough Terrace, W.2.

is that has turned normally social human beings into members of the R.A.F. or their foreign equivalent. And when you discover what it is, you will also discover that a World Economic Conference is not an amorphous project of vague idealism, but the most practical step of realistic politics now waiting to be taken.

The Notice Board

Thanks for helping the Basque children to: The Tooting, Chichester, Ealing, Harrow, W.1, S.W.1, and City peace groups; to Wandsworth, Acton, Dundee, Maidenhead, Westminster, and Middleton groups for becoming "foster-parents"; to all those who have sent parcels (especially to the Bristol giver of boys' clothing—new); and to those many good friends who have again sent anonymous contributions.

This week's special "Basquette" needs: Rugs, warm blankets, disused curtains (art. silk, cretonne and printed linen specially welcome for making-over as bed-spreads); boys' clothing; wool, knitting needles, any small "pretties," i.e., collars, hair-ribbons, slides and clips, buttons and belts, for little girls who have known none of these joys for a long time; clocks! (only one going in the school at present. Suppose it struck—?).

Post cards of the P.P.U. Basque children's house on sale at 96 Regent Street, 1d. each.

Pacifists in London training colleges and colleges of London University please communicate with Miss M. G. Clark or R. S. Malloni giving details of pacifist strength in their college with view to forming University Pacifist Association.

Headquarters want regular open-air meetings throughout summer wherever possible. Send offers and comments to Nigel Spottiswoode at 96 Regent Street, W.1.

Members Write Their Own Column

THERE has been an expression of opinion in circles of PEACE NEWS readers in Birmingham that insufficient space is given to the activities of provincial groups (writes Glyn T. Jones, of 127 Whitehall Road, Handsworth).

Reports of group functions and new and novel activities which have met with conspicuous success, besides being a source of ideas and suggestions to group leaders, would do much in fostering the spirit of unity and comradeship.

This is not a criticism which falls upon the editorial staff of this excellent newspaper, but a spur to group organizers who must not hesitate to report their most prominent successes.

(We would emphasize the last two or three words and add that very old, as well as the less striking, reports tend to lose the fight for space.—Ed.)

J.R.B., High Meadow, Catlin's Lane, Eastcote, Pinner, sends this word picture:—

Village children tumbling over each other on the village green . . . the cheerful voice of a young fellow standing on a box, and grouped in front a few convinced supporters. A batch of cycles with posters attached told the passers-by that this was a meeting of the Peace Pledge Union, the first open-air meeting of our small group.

Pamphlets were taken sheepishly and stuffed into the ever-ready pocket, but not one stopped to listen. Was it waste of time? Who knows?

"If the audience was small, it was a very enthusiastic one—and the people we've met today were full of it," wrote Mr. A. A. G. Lewis, the day after a meeting in the Methodist Central Hall, Morden, which was successful in that those who did attend were the unconverted. Hence the importance of its resulting inquiries—which were undoubtedly due to Dick Shepard's very earnest plea that they should think and act rather than just cheer.

Members of the Hornsey group recently rambled through the beautiful country in Hertfordshire. The group Press agent recommends such an outing to groups seeking some new social activity. Another is planned for July 24.

UNDER THE OAK TREE

By Thelma Niklaus

(On behalf of the Basque Fund)

THE recent evacuation of children from Bilbao has been bitterly criticized in the foreign press, and has met with individual criticism in England. It seems to me that there is only one thing that matters—these children were in hourly danger of agonizing death; they are now safe. We have heard many tales of the ungratefulness of these children, of their wildness and intolerance. For what must they be grateful? They are separated from their parents, brought to foreign soil, and forced by circumstances into a way of life which does not suit them. How then can they be grateful, since they do not realize the necessity of this transportation? Lonely, frightened, nerve-shattered children—are these fit subjects for a model camp or school?

I have seen 53 of these "uncontrollable" children in our own house at Colchester. As we approached the house we heard laughter and singing; small children pressed their faces against window panes to watch us coming, waved to us, and looked at us with friendly eyes. Miss Dobson, our warden, told us that when they arrived they set up a great cry of delight at sight of their future home. They are intensely proud of it. They had been in their home less than a week; but it was already theirs. Every floor shone, every bed was neatly made, every bathroom spotlessly clean. Singing as they work, the children sweep and dust and polish and put flowers in all the rooms. The day before our visit had been an orgy of washing, starching and ironing; smaller children polished their only pair of shoes until they shone like glass. Senora Alonso, our cook and "mother" cannot find enough work for eager hands and quick feet. They are anxious to begin lessons again. Our Spanish speaking teachers, Tom Darling and William Stirling find them ready to slip back into their normal school programme, and delighted at the thought of learning English. There is an immense vitality in that group of children, and a quick interest in their surroundings.

I looked in vain for the unruly mob of children I had been told to expect by those who shook wise heads over our plan. I did not find them. I found only healthy children absorbed in their immediate surroundings, friendly, happy, and interested. Two boys fought—and then rolled over on the ground, roaring with laughter; one little girl objected to her neighbour's table manners, and rapped him sharply on the knuckles. He retaliated in kind. But in the afternoon they rested side by side, and whispered to each other.

We were vastly entertained at lunch by the comments of the children and their desire to learn English. "I am very well," said my left hand neighbour gravely. "How you are? My name is Maria Luz." The little boy facing me nodded "Sugar. Good day," he said, and smiled with the consciousness of work well done.

The children sang folk songs to us; two girls danced their native dances. In the evening when we left they saw us off with great dignity. They had welcomed us to their home, they had entertained us. Now, grave hosts of ten and twelve, they bade us God speed and returned to the onerous task of bathing and putting to bed the younger members of their family.

NON-CONFORMISTS REJECT

"REARMAMENT"

Christianity the Only Practical Way Today

From Our Own Correspondent

A PACIFIST amendment, urging renunciation of the war method and rebuilding of the world order on the basis of justice and brotherhood, was added (as "from an idealistic angle") to a resolution adopted at the annual meeting of the Provincial Assembly, comprising the Presbyterian and Unitarian ministers and congregations of Lancashire and Cheshire, in Bank Street Chapel, Bury, last week.

The official resolution, calling for Recognition of sanctity of treaty obligations;

Reduction and limitation of armaments by international agreement and suppression of profit in arms;

Strengthening of the League of Nations for the prevention and stopping of war by the organization of collective security and mutual assistance; and

Establishment within the framework of the League of effective machinery for remedying international conditions which might lead to war;

was moved by the President, Mr. P. M. Oliver.

The Rev. H. H. Johnson (Buxton), moved an amendment (defeated by an overwhelming majority) regretting the necessity for effective rearmament, but seeing in it at the moment its chief hope for world peace, and for the securing of liberty and representative government. He said that religious liberty and civil liberty were so precious that we should be prepared to sacrifice everything for them. **The Imperial Conference, he said, had made it clear that Britain's armaments were for non-aggression.**

MASSACRES IN SPAIN

The Rev. Sidney Spencer (Hope Street, Liverpool) then moved the pacifist amendment referred to above. He declared that in Spain we had daily and hourly instances of women and children on both sides being massacred. If the Church were prepared to take a stand and definitely repudiate armed violence, it could make its influence effective.

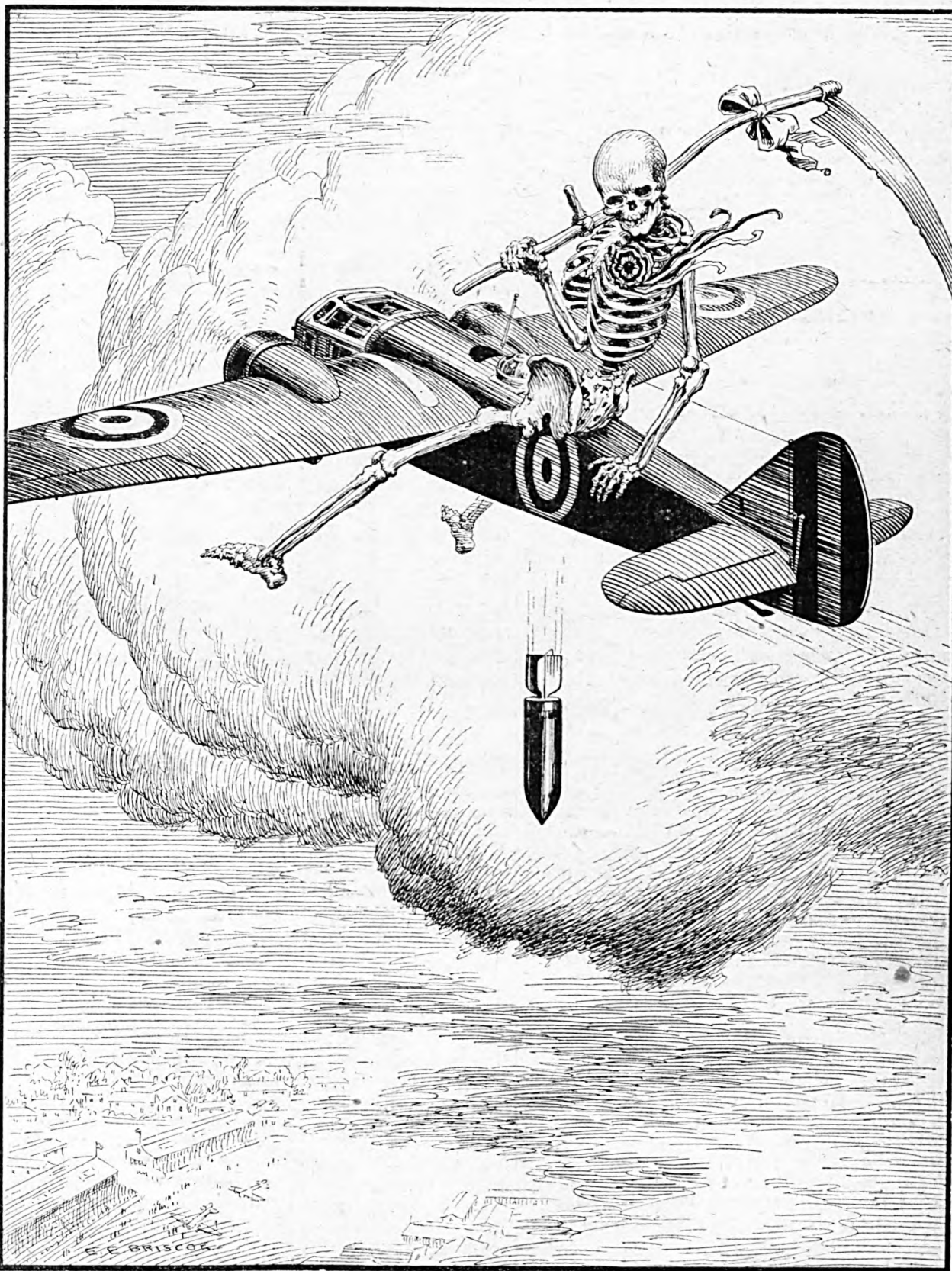
The Man of Nazareth was the practical man today. It was we who were the failures, we who were the impractical visionaries, with the hideous mess we had made of the world's affairs.

Surely the practical way was to give the world a lead in a bold and definite refusal to take part in war, but to adopt the method that said, "I will die for the cause, but I will not take the life of another man."

THE PRICE

IT is shown by the analysis of the 1937-38 Budget estimates that out of each £1 of national expenditure, omitting the self-supporting services, 11s. 1d. is for past, present, and future wars, only 8s. 11d. remaining for other needs.

HENDON—JUNE 26, 1937



Drawn by E. E. Briscoe

A Rendezvous with Death

NO TROOPS LINED THE ROUTE

Denmark has stolidly refused to allow the hysteria which has seized the rest of the world to grip her as well, and she has reduced her armaments while other countries have re-armed.

In contrast to our own coronation procession there were no troops lining the route along which the democratic King Christian X paraded recently on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his reign.

Even where the crowd was thickest only a few policemen were sufficient to keep it back. It would be a positive act for peace if we too could dispense with our military pomp and glory.

Propaganda Against Peace Week

A PEACE exhibition at which the Spirit of Christ was contrasted with the Spirit of War was a feature of the Waterloo peace week which has just closed. One part showed how the use of military force inevitably entails human suffering and loss and the other what has been accomplished in those instances where the Christian ideal has been practised in international relationships.

The distribution of yellow leaflets entitled "Beware of Peace Weeks," which set out to prove that peace weeks were engineered to spread Communist propaganda did some harm, especially among members of the local Councils, but the week prospered in spite of them.

The Waterloo Pacifist Group hope to run a series of weekly addresses on

God's Business—The King, Not Peace?

The following example of utter confusion of mind was demonstrated at a village on the outskirts of the New Forest, where a peace meeting was drawing to a close.

A "militarist" interrupter at the back of the hall had concluded a series of audible comments with, "Leave God out of it." A few minutes later, as the chairman closed the meeting, he and his supporters lustily broke forth with, "God save our gracious King . . ." and then, departing, doubtless congratulated themselves that they had had the last word on "Which Way to Peace?"

the shore, with a leading speaker, followed by members of the group giving five-minute addresses on "Why I am a Pacifist."

Peace News

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The Weekly Newspaper of the Peace Pledge Union
Taking the Constructive Pacifist Position, but providing news,
information and an open forum

Serving all who are working for Peace

June 26, 1937

WOMEN AND WAR

IN the days of chivalry men went to war against men; and women helped them to buckle their armour. In the 20th century men wage war on unarmed women and children who cower in their homes in terror of being bombed or burnt to death or asphyxiated by mechanical devices. If they endeavour to escape through the streets they are "mopped-up" by low-flying 'planes whose machine-guns turn every lane into an enfiladed trench. This occupation is still called "war."

How long are the women of Europe going to endure this treatment? How long are they going to give it their sanction—and subscription? How long are they going to countenance the barbarity of massacre in the name of "war"? If the Archbishops of Canterbury and York give sanction to this kind of thing "in a just cause"—since it is inseparable from, and imperative to, modern war, however "just" and wherever waged—do the women of England give it their sanction and support? And if not **WHAT ARE THEY PROPOSING TO DO ABOUT IT?**

For when a disease becomes a plague—when the venial becomes the deadly—when war becomes humanly intolerable and an actual menace to the bearers and nurturers of the human race, wise women do not stay wringing their hands, they up and tell their insane men-folk: **THIS KIND OF THING HAS GOT TO CEASE.** And if they exercise the whole of their power for this single purpose, it **WILL** cease.

Like the earth that bears us all, woman is long-suffering. Child-bearing teaches her to be. Physical pain she can endure longer and better than man. But she will only endure the extreme of human suffering for a purpose. Put upon her the utmost limits of suffering for some abstraction such as may intrigue man for a century, and her sense of real life-values will step in and she will say to man—as Campbell-Bannerman once said to Arthur Balfour—"Enough of this foolery!"

The damnable foolery of modern war is revealed directly we perceive that man no longer fights with man, but this creature of flesh and blood now pits himself against the whole armoury of modern science. Ultimately—as some of us have seen in gazing at the corpses of a modern battlefield—human flesh is no match for the scientifically-perfected destructive machine. And once the women of England grasp the fact that the children of their wombs are being required to oppose themselves to the most skilfully devised means of scientific destruction, will they not appreciate the necessity of calling a halt—irrespective of every other consideration of justice—to the monstrously unjust activity of "war" itself?

SENTIMENTALISM AND THE FIGHTING SERVICES

By

Brig.-Gen. F. P. CROZIER

C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

CAPT. LIDDELL HART in one of his recent publications reminded us that the senior Fighting Services may not be able to shed the sentimentality which forces them to stick to worn-out methods, and that this defect may have considerable bearing on the future of England. Most serving soldiers, if they pause to think, will agree with this wise statement. But how few think at all!

I see a faint hope on the horizon, not half as big as the little finger of a hand, which may help the citizen to learn the truth about the so-called defences of this country and the British Empire. The hope lies in the fact that, consequent upon the reshuffle within the new Government, Mr. Duff Cooper has been transferred to the Admiralty, about which he probably knows nothing, while Mr. Hore-Belisha (about whose appointment I expressed a hope some six months ago) has taken over the War Office, and Lieutenant Colonel Muirhead has assumed the responsibility of spokesman for the Air Ministry in the House of Commons.

This trinity represents a step in the right direction, because the three men concerned are young enough to absorb knowledge, yet old enough to have had experience of the Great War. I observed all three during the War, and can testify to their admirable soldierly qualities, each in his own sphere. Is it asking too much of these three to beg them to sink their sentimentality? (Two of them will probably protest that they do not possess sentimentality in any shape or form.) The fact is there are few real soldiers who would not prefer to die for the Billygoat strutting proudly at the head of the Royal Welch, when that sedate old gentleman might appear to be in danger of death at the hands of some clumsy clown in a motor-car; and we know that there were occasions during the war when "trench feet" were acquired in the muddy valleys because it was not considered "good form" for the British Army ever to "give up ground"! I never held that sentimental view when giving ground meant putting my adversary in the mud and my men on to higher ground, where their feet might be dry (and therefore less cold) especially when, in the dawn of Spring, I might possess a better jumping off place. And, metaphorically speaking, the task before this trinity in the House of Commons today is a similar one.

If Mr. Hore-Belisha will only face facts, as I once heard him at the Sylvan Debating Club, long before he was ever a Member of Parliament, he will realise that what is going on now in his new department is entirely wrong. He will see that his only hope is to shun sentimentality and seek information from unbiased soldiers—possibly those in retirement who have had time to learn how to think and have nothing to lose by thinking unpopularity. He will consult Colonel Muirhead in regard to the best method of coordinating the affairs of the three Fighting Services, in order to bring out the salient facts that this country can be destroyed by air action (we can do the same to many other countries) and that the strategic and

tactical method of holding the British Empire together must be worked out entirely anew, or we shall perish. Then only will he justify his new appointment. Yet I have heard it said that the reason for his transfer to the War Office is that it will enable him to organize a Recruiting Campaign because his efforts to save life on the roads have made him popular with mothers. A more insulting suggestion I never heard.

This is not a question of what "The Major" did at Poona, or what led to the painting of the superb picture, *Floreat Etona*, by Lady Butler. For instance, it is a matter of grave concern to the country that the people be told quite honestly that the Air Raid Precautions have not been instigated for their protection but in order to improve their morale—namely to persuade them to die "peacefully," without making a fuss.

I suggest (seeing that Mr. Duff Cooper will be immediately confronted with sentimentality about the ruling of the waves by Britannia, and the ability of the battleship to stand up to the bomber) that Mr. Hore-Belisha and Colonel Muirhead get together to fight out this issue with the Admiralty, and that they, with the aid of Mr. Duff Cooper, tell the Government and the Committee of Imperial Defence that what is required for the solution of our problems by modern technique is that the Minister for Co-ordination shall be a man of entirely different type from the present holder of that office, and that his job should be to coordinate the policy of strategy and tactics, and that a financially minded Treasury Official, such as Sir Lewis Ross, be appointed to do Sir Thomas Inskip's work of allocating money and coordinating contracts.

I believe if this approach be followed, it will be found that the Air Ministry will gradually have to take over a Ministry of Defence, and that the policing of the sea and land will have to be allocated to subordinate departments of that Defence Ministry. This step will eventually bring citizens to the correct knowledge that the whole business of warfare (as we knew it) has become merged in the gangster business of arson, gassing and pulverization by bombardment, and that the choice which lies between the constructive organization of the world and its destruction has been narrowed down, there being now no need for warfare of chivalry, courage, patriotism, decency and manoeuvre.

Up to now the serving men of the two Senior Fighting Services have ruled the roost, partly by habit, partly owing to sentimentality, and partly through a selfish misunderstanding of duty. The three men to put this defect right are Mr. Hore-Belisha, Colonel Muirhead and Mr. Duff Cooper.

When these three Members of Parliament realise that the idea of "Collective Security" is unsustainable under modern gangster rule it will be easier for them to present the people with a clean-cut alternative, as embodied in the ideas of Messrs. Lansbury, Roosevelt, Hitler, and Mussolini, in regard to an all-round reduction of armaments which the new Prime Minister is said to desire.

NEWSNOTES

Defence Against Conciliation! :: Touch
& Go in France? :: "Living
Wage" on Par with
"Loot"

by OEDIPUS

EMPHASIS is rightly laid, on the front page of this paper, on the remarkably progressive policies to which the governments of the British Empire are committed by their representatives' statement as members of the Imperial Conference.

This selection of the good, not merely for praise but for purposes of what I might call "nagging" at the governments, does not acquit pacifists of the duty of pointing out the bad, which, if it is acted upon, will actually prevent the governments from giving effect to the good intentions.

For example, the statement declares that "the settlement of differences . . . between nations . . . should be sought by methods of cooperation, joint inquiry, and conciliation." Yet the same signatories "are bound to adopt such measures of defence as they may deem essential for their security."

Security against cooperators, inquirers, conciliators?

The statement did not enlarge on the "measures of defence" which the delegates decided to take in the economic field, but stuck to their aspirations. But if it turns out that they have again—as they did particularly at Ottawa—sought first the Empire of Britain and her interests, peace will not be added unto them merely because they now declare themselves "ready to cooperate with other nations in examining current difficulties."

That is only two-thirds of their peace policy. Conciliation demands more practical action.

THE defeat of a French government does not usually seem to be a very tragic affair. Seldom is there much difficulty in eventually finding another government which, having the same members in the Chamber to support or oppose it, cannot well produce a radical change in policy.

For once this must appear to those of us in this country who regard a progressive policy in France as important to be the best we could hope for. With fascism spreading like a disease throughout Europe and now approaching her from the South, France's own particular brand of fascist will be only too eager to take his chance if given the slightest opportunity. Similarly, on either or both of the twin principles of "defence" and preventive war, the extreme Left would welcome any opening for its own brand of salvation.

From such a conflict there can be no hope of peace. Of the chances of a successful outcome of the difficult tasks that await the attention of the new French government there is, it is true, but little more hope.

But to M. Blum's credit be it said that his has been practically the only government, either of France or any other country, to pursue the forlorn hope of disarmament in the last two or three years with anything like enthusiasm.

THE fact that the new tax on profits for the government's arms programme has been received so much better than was the original National Defence Contribution throws more light on the real reason for the original outcry.

There are obvious improvements, such as simplicity in place of intricate book-keeping problems, and the spreading of the burden.

The latter, however, is more attractive in principle

(Concluded on page 11, column 4)

A Weekly Commentary

By J. Middleton Murry

CHRISTIANITY AND THE MODERN STATE

IT was interesting to read the other day on the middle page of *The Times* a letter commending the Bishop of Gloucester's attitude of sweet reasonableness to Germany; and then to turn to the page of foreign news and find in one column Dr. Goebbels warning the literary critics of Germany that on no account must they suffer any artistic production of Jewish origin to re-enter the Aryan Sparta, and in another that three Berlin leaders of the Confessional Church had been arrested for having met to consider whether they should obey the instruction from the Reichsminister that the practice of reading out the names of lapsed members of their congregations should cease. Two or three months ago the Bishop of Gloucester assured us that Herr Hitler's offer of free church-elections had made the passive resistance of the German Confessional Church quite unnecessary: now *The Times* correspondent tells us—as indeed he warned us from the beginning—that it is unlikely in the extreme that such free church-elections will ever be held.

The evidence is that the campaign against organized Christianity in Germany is being continued quite ruthlessly. It is logical enough. The notion that anyone should publicly profess allegiance to a higher authority than the German state and the German race is intolerable. As Reichsvikar Engelke, of the "German-Christian" Church, put it: "God has manifested himself, not in Jesus Christ, but in Adolf Hitler." That is, I suppose, an extreme case. But what about Reichsminister Kerrl himself? "I have remained silent for two months," said Graf von Galen, the Catholic Bishop of Munster, in a sermon which was suppressed, "waiting for Reichsminister Kerrl to deny the report that he stated, at a meeting of the Regional Evangelical Church Commission, that the idea was ludicrous that Christianity is based on the belief that Christ was the Son of God. However, nothing of the sort has occurred."

It seems to me that what is happening to organized Christianity in Germany as something imposed from without is really happening to it in this country also. In Germany the secularization of Christianity is aggressive; just as the totalitarian state of Germany is avowedly that to which England is unconsciously tending. So that one asks oneself whether the difference between Germany and England, and the difference between Christianity in Germany and Christianity in England, is really more than that there is less humbug about the German manifestation. At what point, for example, does the Christian Church in England really cease to be "yes-man" to the secular state? It protests against the bombing of Guernica. Is it really determined to protest against the bombing of the innocents by English planes, when it comes to business? Of what real meaning is a protest against Guernica by the Archbishop of Canterbury in the House of Lords, unless it is accompanied by a declaration that the English Church will absolutely oppose any such action by the English Air Force against its enemies? And, again, what meaning would such a declaration have unless the actual form of the "absolute opposition" is defined? Or are not the chances heavy that such "absolute opposition" would

consist in another platonic declaration: "We absolutely oppose. . . .?"

Herr Hitler in *Mein Kampf* is quite outspoken:—

"When nations struggle for their existence on this planet, and the question is raised whether they shall survive or not, all humanitarian and æsthetic considerations are of no avail, for conceptions of this kind are not of the world, but come out of the imagination of men and are bound to that imagination. . . . As regards the humanitarian question, Moltke has already explained himself thereon, taking the view that in war humanitarianism consists in executing it with the utmost possible rapidity, and that, as a consequence, the most brutal methods are the most humanitarian."

We know where we are. Herr Hitler merely says openly what the English Government is a little shamefaced about. But everybody knows quite well that Herr Hitler's principle is the principle upon which we are going to act. English Christians know it just as well as anybody else.

Is it any wonder that the protests of official Christianity against the bombing of Guernica are regarded in Germany as eye-wash? Is it possible for a sane man to regard them in any other light? Is not the question, whether there is any reality in Christianity in the modern world at all? The Church is real enough. It is a great and wealthy institution, which once fulfilled a function. But what function does it fulfil today? It is part of the "system."

The trouble today is that for the vast majority of men Christianity is unreal. It has been so long tacitly accepted that the evident demand of Our Lord for revolutionary act is remote from practical experience that the dynamic power of Christianity has almost totally evaporated. Christian conduct has no specific meaning: it is indistinguishable from the conduct of any ordinary well-behaved citizen of society. We are all "Christians" today.

That means that the Christian Church has no ground from which it can criticize modern society. The Archbishop of Canterbury's "recall to religion," therefore, means no more in fact than that people should go to Church again. That might be well, if the Church had anything to speak to their condition; if it dared to exhort them to real repentance—to a real and revolutionary change of heart and mind. But why should they go to church, as the Church is today, except to connive at their own self-deception? The Church, as an institution, is paralyzed from its function of a radical criticism of modern society, because it is totally involved in the mechanism of modern society. Any radical criticism of modern society by the Church must therefore imply an equally radical criticism of the Church by itself. So long as the Church shrinks from that, its Christian profession will be unreal to the ordinary man.

William Blake said: "Man must and will have some religion. If he has not the religion of Jesus, he will have the religion of Satan, and will erect the synagogue of Satan, calling the Prince of this world God and destroying all who do not worship Satan under the name of God." That is happening, exactly and overtly, in Germany today. But is it not happening here? When and where, if not in the matter of War today, will the Church in England reveal its independence of the secular state?

TELEVISION CAN BE USED FOR PEACE

By William T. Cooper

ON my way up the hill to the new television station at Alexandra Palace recently I looked out over the vast expanse of London, stretching away to the horizon in almost every direction.

Overhead was the slender aerial mast, the one visible link connecting the artists in the studios with the many hundreds of viewers into whose homes their pictures would pass. I began to wonder what were the possibilities of man's newly-acquired faculty for seeing at a distance.

Could it be used for promoting peace and understanding between the nations?

I took my seat among the studio audience a few minutes before the programme was due to begin.

Two minutes before we were due to go on the air the studio was in complete silence. Then from a hidden

Technical advances making for simpler and therefore cheaper receivers, mass production, and hire-purchase will combine to equip millions of homes with television sets.

We pacifists must be ready to take advantage of the opportunity which the new medium offers for spreading the doctrine of non-violent resistance.

We shall need speakers whom the public will want to hear and see—famous actors, musicians, writers, politicians, scientists, and religious leaders.

Such men and women are already to be found within our ranks, but we need many more if we are to succeed in our purpose.

UNMASKED

The half-truths of militarist propaganda seem more acceptable when they are repeated by an unseen speaker than when the audience have a close-up view of his face.

Thus I am inclined to think that a television broadcast by George Lansbury would excite more sympathy than one by such an ardent believer in military force as Mr. Winston Churchill or Signor Mussolini.

A life spent in reliance on the power of violence gives to the face a hardness which no make-up artist or radio technician can mask.

Where Do You Sell?

To the list of places where PEACE NEWS is being sold in the streets should be added:—

BIRMINGHAM
DERBY
GREENFORD
LEICESTER
LONDON, W.1 (Regent Street)

OLDHAM
PLAISTOW
PRESTWICH
SOUTHAMPTON
STEPNEY
STOCKPORT

making a total of 50.

loudspeaker the chimes of Big Ben stole softly, and, as the last note died away, the announcer's low, clear tones told us that the programme had begun. A comedian appeared, talking, gesticulating, and emphasizing his patter by grimaces which drew peals of laughter from the studio audience.

WORLD-WIDE APPEAL

Next I sat in a darkened room before a screen on which was pictured the face of a girl singing in the studio. With the help of easy, natural movements of face and eyes she made a success of two typical "crooner" songs, rather dull and ordinary in themselves.

I was impressed by her power to portray, through the face, emotions and aspirations which cannot easily be put into words.

Like the silent film, television is international in its appeal.

A simple story, in the form of a television play, may in the not far-distant future be received and understood by men of every race and language.

The significant feature of television is that it influences the emotions more powerfully than the intellect, and it is popular emotion which often settles the issue of peace or war.

A POWERFUL INFLUENCE?

Television is at present nothing more than a toy for the amusement of the rich, but in a year or two it will probably be exerting an even more powerful influence on current events than sound broadcasting does today.

Recent Publications

RAISE WORKERS' STANDARD OF LIVING

THE HUMAN NEEDS OF LABOUR. B. Seebohm Rowntree. Longmans. 2s. 6d.

Reviewed by R. Duncan Fairn

IN 1931, 60 percent of the working population received less, on the average, than £2 7s. a week each.

Mr. Seebohm Rowntree estimates that the lowest wage at which the physical efficiency of a man, wife, and their three children can be maintained, is £2 13s., or £2 1s. for rural workers. Moreover, he admits more than once that if his figure can be criticized at all, it errs on the side of stringency, and it has been so criticized in *The Times* by the Children's Minimum Council.

The defence is that the figure is not an optimum figure; it is the lowest figure consistent with bare physical efficiency.

STRINGENT

How stringent a standard of life is involved may be gathered from a few examples.

All recreation, travelling, other than to and from work, holidays, and luxuries, must be found out of 3s. 4d. a week.

For food, 20s. 6d. is allowed, and the detailed costs (1936) for all articles in the dietary are given. Even so, the weekly scheme only provides for one egg, 12 tins of skimmed milk condensed, and margarine instead of butter.

For the rest, rent and rates claim 9s. 6d., clothing 8s., fuel and light 4s. 4d., household sundries 1s. 8d., and personal sundries, including such compulsory items as unemployment and health insurance, 9s.

POVERTY AMIDST PLENTY

So much for Mr. Rowntree's discovery about minimum needs, which, as minima, are unassailable. We come back, in another form, to the statement with which we began.

A large proportion of the population, on Mr. Rowntree's showing, is living below the level at which even a bare physical efficiency may be maintained. What is to be done about it? Every employer and every worker should read *The Human Needs of Labour*.

Its author, who is himself a large employer of labour, says it is well within the power of a

country so rich as ours to provide at least this minimum for its people. He argues that no surplus profits should be retained until this bare minimum in wages has been met.

He believes that given time and Trade Board organization, most, if not all, of the increased cost could be met through increased efficiency, and without adding to the burden which industry has to carry. Unless we act upon his researches, we shall as a community be guilty of allowing a great proportion of the nation's children to be ill fed, ill clothed, and ill housed, during the critical years of their lives. This is not a happy reflection upon our industrial civilization.

Opportunity For Britain

THE EMPIRE IN THE WORLD—A STUDY IN LEADERSHIP AND RECONSTRUCTION. Oxford University Press. 10s. 6d.

Reviewed by Mosa Anderson

THIS is a composite work in which three writers approach the question of the Empire's duty to the world today from different angles.

The result is an illuminating book. Yet, to the reader who looks upon an exclusive empire as an anomaly which can only be justified through laborious attention to the natives' interests, and scrupulous regard for the open door principle, there is something lacking.

There is a tendency, especially in the section which surveys the development of the Empire, to treat the Empire as a commonwealth of white self-governing States, whose chief problem is the strength and scope of the bonds which unite them.

Such a point of view may have been appropriate to the jubilating London of the coronation, to the London of the Imperial Conference, where a handful of Prime Ministers and Dominions leaders were the main representatives of the British Empire, with its 400 million coloured inhabitants. But it is not quite comprehensive!

As Sir Arthur Willert points out, "Great Britain has, at the same time, the greatest responsibilities and the greatest opportunities. It is one of the most depressing facts in a grim international picture that she seems to be shirking responsibility and letting opportunity slip."

This theme is expanded by Mr. H. V. Hodson in a section which is worthy of study. He gives an account of the various grievances and says, "even if the open door were injurious to Great Britain economically—which in the long run is most unlikely—it is the best contribution she can make to the maintenance of world justice and peace."

"Implements of War cannot achieve peace," states a striking poster issued by the Northern Friends' Peace Board, Spring Bank, Rawdon, near Leeds. The conclusion is: "He who supports armaments inevitably supports war." The Friends' Peace Committee, Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1, is distributing a poster saying "Rearmament will not bring security. Mutual understanding and disarmament can alone secure peace."

SCHOOLS

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Leighton Park School, Reading	150	12-19	£189

GIRLS' SECONDARY BOARDING SCHOOLS

Ackworth School, nr. Pontefract	172	9-18	£110
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CO-EDUCATIONAL SECONDARY BOARDING SCHOOLS

Friends' School, Gt. Ayton, Yorks.	150	9-17	£81
Friends' School, Saffron Walden, Essex	202	10-18	£99
(Junior)	28	7-10	£99
Sidcot School, Winscombe, Somerset	150	10-18	£123
Friends' School, Wigton, Cumb.	104	7-17	£82 1s.

CO-EDUCATIONAL "MODERN" BOARDING SCHOOL

Friends' School, Sibford, nr. Banbury	158	10-17	£81
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Apply to SCHOOL, or to SECRETARY, Friends Education Council, Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1

Drama

THE third

International conference was held at the Hotel Welwyn. The conference was a success, but, unfortunately, it was not attended by the excellent writer who attended the last conference.

Talks were given by Dr. Carter, author of *The Shipp*, Dr. St. Shipp, author of *The Shipp*, and Dr. St. Shipp, author of *The Shipp*. The conference was a success, but, unfortunately, it was not attended by the excellent writer who attended the last conference.

There was a Festival of the Arts, judged by W. actor, and Theatre, Dul

GOOL

The Founding of the Pax was an event of the first importance. The play was a success, but, unfortunately, it was not attended by the excellent writer who attended the last conference.

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BEST

London P. the difficult written play Irvine, but the material

My own was handicapped by the character of town at the Spring Bank, Rawdon, near Leeds. The conclusion is: "He who supports armaments inevitably supports war." The Friends' Peace Committee, Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1, is distributing a poster saying "Rearmament will not bring security. Mutual understanding and disarmament can alone secure peace."

R. H. Players,

Drama Notes

by JOHN ATHEY

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THE third annual conference of the International Pax Players' Association was held this year at the Conference House, Digswell Park, near Welwyn. The weather was the usual conference mixture of rain and sunshine, but, in spite of this, a very excellent week-end was spent by all who attended.

Talks were given by Miss Winifred Carter, authoress of *Moloch* and other plays, Dr. Har Dayal, Mr. Horace Shipp, noted author of many peace plays, Dr. Stefan Hock, eminent Austrian producer, J. Ellis Williams, author and translator of many plays in Welsh, Rev. Reginald Sorensen, A. E. Baylis, and many other personalities of the theatre.

There were six entries for the Festival of Peace Plays, which was judged by William G. Fay, producer, actor, and founder of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin.

GOOD PROPAGANDA

The Founders' Trophy was won by Bristol Pax Players with a performance of an original play, *Storm in June*, by Leslie Nichols. All the players in this group gave very finished performances and fully deserved the award.

The play is good peace propaganda, but it would be considerably improved if the pacifist had refused to fight for more unselfish reasons. One would expect a group from Somerset to be handicapped in London by their local dialect, but their enunciation was perfect.

Although the adjudicator did not place the other plays in order of merit I considered that Central Pax Players' presentation of *The Last War*, by Neil Grant, would have earned them second place. R. H. Ward's performance as the Angel, and Miss Telford's as the Monkey received favourable mention.

PICTURESQUE

The Lesney Players' performance of *Women at War*, by Edward Percy, was admirably staged and the costumes were all very picturesque. The off-stage effects were well done and for this I consider they earned a large percentage of points.

The dream scene from *Moloch* was handicapped by being taken from a full-length play and it showed no continuity.

If the remainder of the play could have been explained or indicated, no doubt it would have received a more favourable opinion from the adjudicator. Mrs. Morris, played by Violet Baylis, and her soldier son, by R. H. Ward, were the outstanding performers.

BEST PERFORMANCE

London Pax Players were faced with the difficulties of a rather poorly written play, *Progress*, by St. John Irvine, but they did quite well with the material at hand.

My own play, *Two Against War*, was handicapped by one of the leading characters having been called out of town at the last moment and I must congratulate R. H. Ward for so admirably filling the breach and Kitty Dicks for playing up to him after two very poor rehearsals. I am afraid I only added to their difficulties by suffering from the importance of the occasion.

R. H. Ward, of Central Pax Players, was presented with a

SHAKESPEARE

IN a recent PEACE NEWS there was a fine cartoon in which a humble donkey stands on a Spanish hillside—as yet unwrecked—and gazes in patient bewilderment at the chaos and horror of the battlefield below. Underneath the drawing is a passage from Mark Antony's speech over the dead body of Julius Caesar.

"O judgment, thou art fled to brutish beasts
And men have lost their reason."

In *Hamlet* Shakespeare has much more to say on the subject of pacifism. Indeed the essential theme of the play is the struggle in Hamlet's mind between the apparent necessity for violent action by the use of the sword and a policy which to Hamlet wears the disguise of lack of resolution—the policy, as he says, of "thinking too precisely on the event."

Now pacifism is (among other things) the habit of thinking precisely on the event, and there cannot be too much precision about that way of thinking since the nature of the event is conditioned by the policy used to bring it to pass. Hamlet fails to perceive this, and therein lies his tragedy.

His old councillor, Polonius, a politician—and remarkably representative of many politicians of our day—puts the Government point of view

"Beware Of entrance to a quarrel; but, being in,

Bear't that the opposed may beware of thee."

Hamlet, however, is a deeper thinker than Polonius and in his most famous soliloquy he sums up the whole question.

"TO BE OR NOT TO BE?"

The very words "To be or not to be?" have been interpreted as meaning "Is my present project of actively opposing evil by the use of violence to be or not to be?" He asks himself in this speech whether he shall "take arms against a sea of troubles and, by opposing, end them?" and reflects that no man would bear all the troubles of this life if he could solve them by death:

"For who would bear the whips and scorns of time,
The oppressor's wrong, the proud man's contumely,
The pangs of disprized love, the law's delay,
The insolence of office, and the spurns
That patient merit of the unworthy takes,
When he himself might his quietus make
With a bare bodkin?"

Hamlet is rejecting the possibility of obtaining peace by taking his own life, but it is plain that we must in the same way reject the possibility of making a quietus by taking other men's lives.

Even death, he sees clearly, does not solve the problem, for nobody knows that there will not be a "something after death" in which the use of

prize for the best performance of the Festival.

The adjudication was very fair, the performances were all very well received and the audience enjoyed an interesting day of propaganda drama.

By
RUTH WADHAM

AS PACIFIST

violence may reap terrible rewards.

This is, in essentials, the very conclusion that is familiar to all pacifists. In the long run war will meet with the inevitable repercussions of war.

But Hamlet himself cannot entirely accept this conclusion and hesitation brings about his tragic end, as it might bring about the tragic end of our civilization. He sees (and we see) that in our minds we must "suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" but he does not see that it is only by using the powers of the mind that man can heal those wounds.

AS IN SPAIN

At one moment he declares with pacifists

"Bless'd are those

Whose blood and judgment are so well commingled

That they are not a pipe for fortune's finger

To sound what stop she please. Give me that man

That is not passion's slave"

but passion overcomes his own judgment and he feels, like the young men of the International Brigade, that he is a coward not to use the sword when soldiers are marching to their deaths.

"To my shame I see

The imminent death of twenty thousand men,

That, for a fantasy and trick of fame

Go to their graves like beds"

—as men are going to them daily in Spain today. He cries, as they cry, "O, from this time forth my thoughts be bloody, or be nothing worth!" and

he pretends to madness, nerves himself to kill, but in error stabs Polonius, not his stepfather, as he intended.

But he has declared war and he is trapped in its inescapable results. Ophelia, Polonius' daughter, whom Hamlet loved, is driven mad by grief and bewilderment, and is drowned. Hamlet is forced to fight a duel with his friend Laertes, Polonius' son. Now death, having been given his opportunity, moves swiftly to possess the field. Hamlet's mother, drinking to her son's victory, takes the poisoned cup prepared without her knowledge for her son. Hamlet kills Laertes in the duel, and, in rage at freshly-revealed treachery, stabs his stepfather before he himself drinks to the dregs the last of the poison. Hamlet's failure to renounce death as a weapon has brought death to avenger, innocent, and guilty alike.

It is easy to feel with Hamlet "The time is out of joint; O cursed spite, that ever I was born to set it right!" but we cannot evade the issue and we must still ask ourselves his question "To be or not to be?"

The final answer to that inescapable and searching question lies with the pacifist alone.

Another reader sends us this further example of Shakespeare's "pacifism," himself emphasizing the first three words of the last line:—

But when the blast of war blows in our ears

Then imitate the action of the tiger.

Stiff the sinews, summon up the blood, Disguise fair nature with hard-

favoured rage.
(Henry V, Act 3, Scene 1.)

POOR STREETS ARE PEACE STREETS

HERE'S hoping that Bill Griffiths, who left No. 6 Waterloo Terrace, Bethnal Green, last week for Roehampton Hospital, will find his treatment brings about as complete a change in his health as has been wrought in the street in which he lives.

For Bill Griffiths has been suffering from the effects of war for years. So has the street in which he lives—as witness its name. So, too, with the adjoining "road"—Artillery Street.

Now the borough council is going to call them both Peace Street.

No other thoroughfare in London has this honour. Yet there are few whose aspect is less peaceful!

Peace Street, Bethnal Green, is even more dreary than Wentworth Street, Sheffield, which is seen in the picture below.



Every picture tells a story, and this is no exception. Its story is that, despite its situation in a city that lives largely by making armament material, Wentworth Street has not been blinded thereby to the fact that its, Sheffield's, and the country's real need is for the means of life and its enjoyment and not the means of death.

This banner demanding "national grants for housing, not subsidies for arms" was put up for May Day.

ADJECTIVES

AMONG the features of PEACE NEWS which I particularly welcome are articles such as those of Canon Charles E. Raven and J. Middleton Murry in the issue for June 12.

May I, however, not in any spirit of destructive criticism but in, I hope, the spirit of Mr. Middleton Murry's own "Weekly Commentary," say that the adjectives "horrible" and "inhuman" (as applied to war) in his second paragraph seem to me far more appropriate than "brutal" and "bestial," which appear in his first paragraph?

We are, of course, all aware that disgusting and misguided acts on the part of human beings are often called brutal and bestial; but should not pacifists discourage the practice? We have been told by zoologists that organized warfare among non-human creatures of the same species is so abnormal as to be almost non-existent.

"Brutes" or "beasts" set us an example which, while it falls a good deal short of a Christian or even a tolerably ethical standard for mankind deserves the attention of human beings. Nature provides some puzzles for the humanitarian, but if war is "brutal" and "bestial," then "brutal" does not mean "brute-like" and "bestial" does not mean "beast-like."

F. A. CARLTON SMITH.

79 Athenaeum Road,
Whetstone, N.20.

A FOCAL POINT

Although I have often said how valuable PEACE NEWS is, I hadn't thought of telling you until today.

I think it is very brightly written and contains articles which are really helpful. It is peace news which every pacifist needs to know. Our own group are making PEACE NEWS one of the focal points of propaganda.

L. COWAN.

12 Edgeworth Drive,
Fallowfield,
Manchester.

FIGHT DISEASE

I have just arrived home from the Leeds General Infirmary after a visit to see my mother, who is ill there.

As I walked about the Infirmary I thought of the untold suffering and pain which was all about me, of the doctors, scientists, and nurses who, under great handicaps, are doing great work in bringing about a finer and healthier race.

Then I thought, God in his love and mercy would be thinking about his people lying there suffering, whilst millions were being squandered in poison gas, bombs, air-raid "precautions," and all the other murderous weapons of war.

The only war that has ever had, or ever will have, any success is the war on disease.

To wage a successful war you must be equipped with the proper instruments, but the hospitals and infirmaries of this land cannot have these instruments because armaments are more important than the saving of humanity from the scourge of disease.

LYNDEN PEDLEY.

111 Stonegate Road,
Meanwood, Leeds, 6.

How often in this amazing world do we find the profiteers of munitions and generals in the army appealing for funds to sustain and help some poor and beggared hospital.

The country lavishly bestows its wealth upon these men who fill orphanages and keep hospitals busy.

READERS' PAGE

Political Questions for Pacifists

SHOULD THERE BE A NEW PARTY?

AFTER listening at Birmingham to the discussion on the proposal to form a pacifist political party, and failing to catch the chairman's eye, I should like to put forward in your columns two considerations which were overlooked at the Convention.

In the first place, it is not the division of pacifist opinion which is most to be feared if a new party is formed, but what I may call the crystallizing of the opposition. At present, while there is a great body of non-pacifist opinion in this country, there is probably very little anti-pacifist opinion.

But as the Left Book Club has been answered by the Right, so also would a pacifist party stimulate a similar reaction in some form or other.

Now I believe that nothing is more dangerous or undesirable than the tendency we already see at work toward a sharp division of opinion between opposite extremes.

In the second place, a sincere pacifism is hardly compatible with the tone of party political campaigns.

For these reasons I hope that the proposal to form a pacifist party will go no further.

A. D. HEWLETT.

Uttoxeter,
Staffordshire.

That there would be a fair chance of a pacifist party's making a good beginning is the contention of Mr. G. H. Murphy, who has sent the following figures (relative to the Parliamentary strength of the three parties specified, compared with their rank-and-file membership) to support the argument in his letter published last week:—

Party	Rank-and-file (approx.)	M.P.s
Labour	375,000	157
I.L.P.	5,000	4
Communist	12,500	1
Totals	392,500	162

This works out at one representative for each block of 2,423 rank-and-file members. Pro rata, with 150,000 members, at a general election pacifism should gain no fewer than 61 seats.

At the same time we leave their victims dependent entirely upon flag days, carnivals, college students, sweepstakes, bazaars, church collections, and raffles.

Now why for a change shouldn't hospitals be government subsidized, and when it is found necessary to build a new submarine why shouldn't a fund be opened for public subscription?

Let the public show what it is willing to pay for and what it thinks most necessary.

By this means the Government could keep its fingers on the pulse of the nation.

E. C. HIND.

Y.M.C.A.,
Dale End, Birmingham.

WHICH EXISTING PARTY?

I DO not see why the Labour Party should be less for peace particularly through the League of Nations, because it will not form a United Front with the C.P. and I.L.P.

The Labour Party and the T.U.C. stand for constitutional methods in industry and between nations, and were unjustly accused of wanting war when they called on the League of Nations to stop supplies to the aggressors in conformity with the League's constitution.

Neither the C.P. nor the I.L.P. claims to be pacifist.

The P.P.U.'s only policy is peace and it should be careful in cooperating with non-pacifist bodies.

"PLEDGED."

Northampton.

Please allow me space in your paper to state that I for one am entirely in agreement with Russell Bentley when he suggests that a swamping of the I.L.P. by the P.P.U. might have very pleasing results.

Few politicians are pacifist enough, and still fewer pacifists are political enough. After all's said and done, a firm pacifist-socialist State here would be a far worse knock for fascism than a world war.

MOLLIE RYAN.

c/o Lloyds Bank,
Notting Hill Gate, W.11.

I am in complete agreement with Margaret Pope when she suggests our not alienating ourselves from bodies, or societies, simply because we are not in agreement with them entirely.

For this reason I have joined the local branch of the Labour Party, and the Left Book Club.

Their views approximate most closely to our own in the approach to the question of social and international reforms which are a necessary part of the P.P.U. policy.

We have led in our monthly discussions at the Labour Party such subjects as "The Approach to Peace," and there is no doubt that our apparent youth and sincerity does have an effect.

I have already suggested to P.P.U. headquarters that the weekly talks in the Adult Schools offer us a fine medium for the propagation of our ideas.

Recently four of us led a discussion at our local branch of the Theosophical Society. Each of us giving a lead from a different view point, religious, scientific, philosophical, and political.

On the assumption that nearly all clubs and societies are composed of people who think alike along their own particular way, why not get into these parties and present them with a new line of thought?

REGINALD LIVESEY.

74 Greenway Avenue,
Taunton.

THE "NEW TRIPLE ALLIANCE"

A FEW readers here were keenly interested in Canon Raven's review of Middleton Murry's *The Necessity of Pacifism* under the "New Triple Alliance" because we have been discussing the question, What is the greatest need of our age?

It was agreed that it was for a dynamic body of Christian opinion and that to form this it is essential for individuals to be socialists, or better, as being more definite, Christian Communists, for our objective is surely the creation of a world-wide, classless community in which the highest development of personality will be the chief concern.

Pacifists, understanding the sacredness of personality, and modernists because the creative love of a progressive Christian must be more intellectual than emotional, appealing to reason not force. **Able to face reality, seeking truth at all costs even as it seeks the highest well-being of all mankind.**

There must be many who take this position working in many, often overlapping movements, for one or other of these essentials. To form another would only add to the confusion.

It is suggested that all who agree should adopt and wear an emblem, perhaps a cross with pioneer's implements, a pick and felling axe, or something equally challenging, until such time when growth shall compel organization.

HERBERT SHIPLEY.

21 Eversley Road,
Charlton, S.E.7.

PACIFIST BOOK CLUB

We have seen the great success of the Left Book Club and the establishing of a Right Book Club. Could we not interest some publisher in a Pacifist Book Club? Or if the word pacifist is considered not attractive enough—a P.P.U. Book Club or Peace Book Club.

There could be marvellous books of biography; Schweitzer, Gandhi, William Penn, Ossietzky, and so on, books on historical pacifism, books of the type of Bertrand Russell's *Which Way to Peace?* or Ponsonby's book on the Press in war time, and many others.

There might even be a book of Mr. Baldwin's indiscreet sayings—of great help to pacifists.

There are fine writers among the P.P.U. sponsors. Perhaps a book about the P.P.U.'s first year would make interesting reading.

I feel that the presenting of our case to an enormous number of people is of great importance. I still meet many people who have not heard the arguments for pacifism. For this reason I think we should do our utmost to increase the circulation of PEACE NEWS and to work for the establishment of a Pacifist Book Club.

CLAYTON HARE.

14 Oxford Road,
London, N.W.6.

UNDER BIG BEN

by

Reginald

QUESTION time though gentlemen in House, position.

Three days have question time Foreign Affairs Mondays there incidents that give of supplementary explanations.

Noel Baker, A. Seymour Cocks difficult parliament and criticize the and Attlee, Lloyd on the Opposition as occasion from the Foreign one can anticipate thrusts from back benchers, conceal their sympathies.

But Conserv Macnamara, M and the Duches counteract this. munist, Maxton, from Bournemouth Geoffrey Manderhampton may all view points as to the "cheers" of sympathizers. Speaker rises to press on to other by the bye, mere prolonged "year-year")

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UNDER BIG BEN

by

**Reginald Sorensen
M.P.**



QUESTION time on Mondays, although generally in a rather thin House, possesses particular significance.

Three days have passed since last question time and as India and Foreign Affairs take precedence on Mondays there are many week-end incidents that give rise to a lively crop of supplementaries and to ministerial explanations.

Noel Baker, Arthur Henderson, and Seymour Cocks endeavour within difficult parliamentary limits to probe and criticize the Government. Dalton and Attlee, Lloyd George and Sinclair on the Opposition benches will rise as occasion demands and, apart from the Foreign Secretary himself, one can anticipate counteracting thrusts from particular Conservative back benchers, some of whom hardly conceal their pro-Franco and similar sympathies.

But Conservatives like Captain Macnamara, M.P. for Chelmsford, and the Duchess of Atholl in turn counteract this. Gallacher, the Communist, Maxton, Churchill, Page Croft from Bournemouth, and the Liberal Geoffrey Mander, M.P. for Wolverhampton may also embody their own view points as ingeniously as possible to the "cheers" and "counter-cheers" of sympathizers, until the stately Speaker rises to check the heat and press on to other questions. ("Cheers," by the bye, merely means a curiously prolonged "Year-year-yea-eh-eh-ar, year-year"!)

THIS Monday there were the usual interrogations, mainly critical, respecting non-intervention in Spain.

The Government stoutly maintains its belief that, although there have been regrettable betrayals, nevertheless non-intervention is making progress and is essentially sound.

The Opposition are mainly satirical, with the implication in varied phraseology that non-intervention is a cruel farce and that strong measures should be taken to bring Mussolini and Hitler to heel. There is no opportunity to explain precisely what is the alternative!

Certainly there is agony of spirit and deep indignation at the overwhelming evidence of deliberate Italian and German participation on Franco's side in the Spanish struggle. Attempts are made to equate this by references to Russian technicians and aviators but by now the House as a whole recognizes there is no true comparison.

And so, although there are vehement partisans who would appear completely to endorse either the Spanish Government or the insurgents beneath the natural bias of socialist and anti-socialist there is at present a

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION TO MUNITIONS WORK Not Penalized in 1923—What of 1937?

UMPIRE'S DECISION No. 6686 (December 13, 1923):—

THE applicant, who had been employed for about two weeks as a coppersmith by a firm of yacht builders, was discharged on October 4, 1923, for refusing to do some work in connexion with a government aircraft contract. It was stated that there was no other available work on which he could have been employed.

The applicant stated that he refused to do the work because he conscientiously objected to working on any machine which might be used for the destruction of human life.

RECOMMENDED by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. The Court held that the applicant was not unable to obtain suitable employment but, in view of his conscientious objection to the work, they granted him leave to appeal to the Umpire.

DECISION. "On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be allowed.

"The applicant's usual employment is as a coppersmith in the yacht building trade.

"He was discharged because he was asked to work at a government contract for aircraft and refused to do it as he conscientiously objected to it on the ground that the machines might be used for the destruction of human life.

"It was submitted that he was not unable to obtain suitable employment.

"As the applicant had a genuine objection on religious grounds to doing the work, and it was work of a kind which a person in the applicant's trade would not ordinarily have to do, I think employment in work of that kind is not suitable for him."

"Grave Period" in Italy ANTI-FASCISM GROWING?

IS the recent murder in France of Carlo Rosselli, noted Italian anti-fascist, evidence of a resurgence of active opposition to the present regime in Italy?

Whatever the real answer to this question, the crime has reminded many people of the murder some years ago of Matteotti, and a Spanish Press service has just published a letter from Italy containing the warning not to

"send any more letters to Italy from Spain because this is very dangerous, especially at this moment, now fascism is going through a very grave period, possibly like that in which the crime of murdering Matteotti took place, and, therefore, all letters are opened and censored."

Revelations of anti-militarist activity in Italy appeared in PEACE NEWS a fortnight ago, and (according to *Persdienst I.A.C.*) the existence of strong resistance to the government is not to be doubted.

mood of perplexed, apprehensive tragedy.

BUT there were other questions this Monday, dealing with Basque refugees, the bombing of Guernica, and the alleged torpedo attack on a German battleship. Answers were evasive or non-committal.

Though Spain predominates, India takes second place. Since the India Act formally came into operation it has been impossible to ask detailed questions concerning all matters nominally to be dealt with by the Provincial Legislatures.

This relieves the British Government considerably but it tends to obscure the stark fact that politically-conscious India, led by the Congress, will not work the new Constitution. The India Act leaves central British Imperial domination intact and in so doing provides an excuse for other Powers to maintain that "Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery"—and to act accordingly!

HOW LONG WILL ARMS RACE BE TOLERATED?

I PREDICT that the working men and women of the world will not for ever be content to stand by while civilized living is sacrificed on the altar of armaments. Not for much longer will they be willing to forge the means of their own enslavement and their own destruction."

So spoke Mr. McGrady, of the U.S. Government, at Geneva recently during the general discussion on the report of the Director of the International Labour Office, which was mainly around the question whether the present rise in prosperity was a genuine recovery or whether it was a spurious boom due to expenditure on armaments.

All speakers expressed the fear that the expenditure on armaments represented a reduction in the nations' well-being.

"USEFUL"

The events in Spain, one would have thought, would have convinced most people of the utter destructiveness of a modern bombing plane.

But to some people destructiveness is "useful," for *The Times* last week spoke of new bombers for the R.A.F. as having "useful" loads of not less than 3,500 lb. in one type, and 8,000 lb. in another.

The particular significance of these new types, *The Times* went on, is to be found in the increase in load. The bomber of whatever class now carries nearly twice as much in "useful" load as the type it is displacing.

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NEWSNOTES—

(Concluded from page 7)

than in practice. For it means that firms that have been making a steady profit for the last few years, if "only" of £2,000 a year, will have to pay the same proportion of that profit as will the firm which in the last three or four years has been increasing its profit hand over fist.

It may well be argued that £2,000 a year is more than a legitimate profit for any firm. But, in so far as there is any such thing as justice within the capitalist system, it seems only fair that the greatest burden should fall upon those firms which have not been content with a steady "living wage" but have made all they could out of their fellow men while the going was good.

Especially as in most cases those extra profits have been directly due to the increasing expenditure on arms ever since the formation of the first National Government.

THE purpose of the visit which Baron von Neurath was to have made to London this week depends upon the general attitude of the statesmen concerned to politics. And the fact that the German Foreign Minister could not be spared to discuss the peace of the world (either in London or in Vienna) because consultations with the fighting services over an alleged (unsuccessful) attack on the German cruiser Leipzig were considered more important throws light on that general attitude.

Lord Lothian summed it up at the recent National Peace Congress when he said that "Germany is going to use her strength—not necessarily in war, but in that policy that almost inevitably ends in war—power politics." Our own statesmen's attitude is fundamentally the same.

In other words, they base their politics on the war method; so that however much they may (and undoubtedly do) want to serve the god of peace, it will be of no avail if they subconsciously acknowledge the mammon of war as their master.

SO, too, with the Non-Intervention Committee. The agreement between the fascist and democratic countries to consult together in the event of an attack on any of their patrol vessels has quickly been put to the test by Germany's demand that something "appropriate" be done about the alleged attempt to torpedo the Leipzig. And it has failed.

As I suggested last week, Germany's faith in the war method has driven her, despite consultations, along the path of reprisal. War is like that.

Officially, Germany only demanded in the Non-Intervention Committee a naval "demonstration" before Valencia, and a sterner warning. But delaying machinery is weaker than the war machine.

Only way out is indicated in following statement by George Lansbury on Tuesday:

All Governments must agree to start new page in European history on which must be written, "International cooperation for peace." New lead must be given away from war.

LATE NEWS

Please send FULL Particulars

of your meetings, as follows: Date. Time. Place (in full). Particulars (speaker(s) and subject). Organizers (including address).

Owing to heavy pressure on space, only public meetings or meetings with special speakers (i.e. NOT regular, or branch meetings, unless addressed by an important public speaker) can be inserted in the "Diary of the Week."

Peace News

June 26, 1937

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RESPECT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL is the guiding motive of education at Sherwood School, Burgh Heath Road, Epsom. Junior House, 3-9 years. Senior House, 9-18 years. Vacancies in September for two boarders.

WE BUILD for peace—may we send a prospectus?—Felcourt School, East Grinstead.

HOLIDAYS

STUDENT PEACE CAMP, Llangollen, North Wales, July 10 to August 21, organized this year by the Student Sub-Committee of the British Youth Peace Assembly. It will eclipse all its predecessors in size, quality, and results. Inclusive fee, 25s. per week. Book your place now by sending 5s. deposit for each week to Peace Camp, c/o Student Forum, 71 High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

CYCLE ABROAD WITH I.T.T. Holiday tours in Bavaria, Black Forest, Brittany, Thuringia and Norway under experienced voluntary direction at bare cost. Limited mixed parties.—Stamp for programme to 6 Bainbridge Road, Leeds, 6. Eighth season.

ILLUMINATED ADDRESSES

ALBUMS, SCROLLS, &c., from 1 guinea to 100 guineas. Battley Brothers Ltd., Printers and Publishers, The Queensgate Press, Clapham Park, S.W.4.

LITERARY

SHORT ANTI-WAR POEMS and Verse wanted. Submit MSS. with S.A.E. for return to: Publisher, 1 Lyme Street, London, N.W.1. No publishing fee.

MEETINGS

"SI VIS PACEM PARA PACEM"
"LIBERTY AND FRATERNITY"
"ACTA NON VERBA"

Addresses given on above subjects Sundays, 11 a.m., Lindsey Hall, Nottingham Hill Gate. All welcome.

PERSONAL

BUSINESS LADY taking flat, easy access City and West End, wishes to hear of one or two others who would like to share, furnished or unfurnished, very moderate.—Box D.32, PEACE NEWS, 59 Waterfall Road, N.11.

SITUATIONS

Vacant

MANAGERESS WANTED for young people's residential and club centre. Vegetarian restaurant.—Box D.33, PEACE NEWS, 59 Waterfall Road, N.11.

Wanted

SECRETARIAL WORK desired by lady shorthand-typist (London area); 12 years' varied experience; commercial, legal, journalistic, &c.; by hour, day or week; own typewriter.—Box D.34, PEACE NEWS.

TYPEWRITING

THE SOUTH LONDON TYPEWRITING BUREAU (Mabel L. Eyles), 51 Ruskin Walk, Herne Hill, S.E.24. Telephone Brixton 2863. Duplicating, typewriting, private shorthand lessons, speed practice, &c. Prices on application.

WALKING HOLIDAYS

SWITZERLAND (Lake Lucerne and Bernese Oberland), fifteen days—£12 inclusive. Middle-Germany (Thuringia), fourteen days—£9 inclusive. Parties of ten people only leave London July 24, August 7. Further details: Box D.25, c/o PEACE NEWS, 59 Waterfall Road, N.11.

WHERE TO STAY

AUSTRIAN PEACE-WORKER'S Holiday-Home. Alpine Lake-District, wonderful walks, tours. Swimming. Friendliness. Vegetarian cooking if desired. July to September many vacancies. £2 10s. inclusive. Fare £6 2s.—Moll, Agathaschmiede, Steeg/Hallstaettersee, Austria.

BOURNEMOUTH: AVON ROYAL Hotel, East Cliff. Hot and cold water, bedrooms, central heating. Modern, from three guineas. Write Bertram Hull for brochure. Phone 3142.

COTSWOLDS. In the "Valley of Peace." Food Reform (vegetarian) Guest House. Old world charm: log fires: house car: 2½ guineas (except August). Manager an ex-"C.O." "Fortune's Well," Sheepscombe, near Stroud, Gloucester.

DERBYSHIRE HILLS.—Vegetarian Food Reform Guest House. Alt. 600ft. For happy holiday or restful recuperation. Increased accommodation. Central heating throughout; h. and c. water in all bedrooms. Central for conferences.—A. & K. S. Ludlow, The Briers, Crich, near Matlock. Tel.: Ambergate 44. Station, Ambergate (L.M.S.)

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SUNNY SUSSEX. Vacancies for a few guests at Privett Cottage, Cowbeech, near Hailsham. Large garden. Delightful country with wild flowers and songbirds. Terms 2 guineas. B. and F. Warner.

DIARY OF THE WEEK

June

26 (Sat.) 10 a.m.—6 p.m. Watling Labour Hall, Back Lane, **BURNT OAK**; meeting place for volunteers for demonstration against Hendon air pageant; P.P.U.

3.30 p.m. "Upmeads," The Drive, **RICKMANSWORTH**; Herbert E. Seed and Leonard C. Johnson at garden meeting; P.P.U.

26 and 28—30 (Sat. and Mon.—Wed.) 7.30 p.m. each day, Central Library, St. Peter's Square, **MANCHESTER**; concluding talks on "Educate for World Peace" by Eloise Moeller; United Mothers of the World.

26—July 3 (Sat.—Sat.) 25 Sackville Road, **BEXHILL**; Exhibition and Peace Shop; P.P.U.

27 (Sun.) 9.45 a.m. Parish Church, **RUGBY**; Mr. P. H. B. Lyon at Youth Peace Service.

3 p.m. The Church Hall, Church of the Ascension, Collier Row, **ROMFORD**; Canon S. D. Morris on "Should a Christian Fight?"

3.45 p.m. **PRESTBURY** (by the Bollin Bridge); open-air meeting; Cheshire Monthly Meeting Peace Committee, Society of Friends.

4 p.m. Public Baths, **RUGBY**; peace parade; Youth Peace Assembly.

4.30 p.m. Recreation Ground, **RUGBY**; Gerald Croasdel and others at public meeting; Youth Peace Assembly.

6.30 p.m. **STREATHAM COMMON**; John Barclay and others at open-air meeting; P.P.U.

7.30 p.m. Handsworth Park Bandstand, **BIRMINGHAM**; Mass Meeting on "Constructive Pacifism will remove the causes of war"; No More War Movement.

27—July 3 (Sun.—Sat.) **BROMLEY**; peace week arranged by League of Nations Union, Peace Pledge Union, and other bodies.

29 (Tues.) 1.20—2 p.m. Friends House, Euston Road, **LONDON, N.W.1**; William F. Nicholson on "Ten Years of Lunch-hour Addresses; A Survey of Inter-

nationalism"; Peace committee of the London Friends. 7.45 p.m. Victoria Hall, **BEXHILL**; John Barclay; P.P.U.

29—July 1 (Tues.—Thurs.) Central Hall, Tollcross, **EDINBURGH**; Fourth International Congress of Antimilitarist Ministers and Clergymen; International Union of Antimilitarist Ministers and Clergymen.

30 (Wed.) 8 p.m. Wild Court, **KINGSWAY**, London, W.C.2; open-air meeting arranged by Methodist Peace Fellowship.

July

1 (Thurs.) 1.10—2 p.m. 13 Paternoster Row, **LONDON, E.C.4**; Dr. A. Herbert Gray on "Pacifist Technique"; City P.P.U. group.

3, 4, and 5 (Sat.—Mon.) Dringhoe Grange, **SKIPSEA**; peace camp; particulars from G. H. Dixon, Dringhoe Grange, Skipsea, Driffield.

4—11 (Sun.—Sun.) **MANCHESTER**; peace week arranged by local peace council.

BROMLEY PEACE WEEK

Catering for all ages and tastes, a Bromley peace week has been arranged by the League of Nations Union, the Peace Pledge Union, and other bodies for next week, starting Sunday and ending today week.

Among the speakers will be Miss Thorneycroft, the Duchess of Atholl, the Rev. Percival Smith, and Mr. Vyvyan Adams, M.P. Peace films *War is Hell* and *Madrid Today*, will be shown on Saturday, and a performance of *The Devil's Business*, a play by A. Fenner Brockway, will be given on Wednesday.

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